

Appln. No.: 10/694,839
Supplemental Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

REMARKS

Claims 2-10 and 13-17 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-10, 12 and 14-17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Saitoh et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,612,039 (“Saitoh”), in view of Murray et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,254,662 (“Murray”).

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yanai et al., JP 05-189746 (“Yanai”), in view of Murray.

Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Saitoh as modified by Murray, and further in view of Ushigome, U.S. 5,523,153 (“Ushigome”).

On page 10 of the Final Office Action dated February 23, 2005, the Examiner has indicated that claim 11 contains allowable subject matter. Applicants have canceled claim 1 and rewritten claim 16 in independent form. Applicants have also amended claim 16 to include the recitations of allowable claim 11 (which depended from claim 16). Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 16 and claims 2-10, 13-15 and 17 depending therefrom would not be anticipated or obvious over Saitoh or Yanai in view of Murray and Ushigome.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

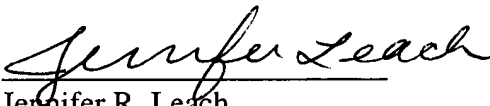
Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 23, 2005